

STRATEGIES TO INCREASE SAFETY

- ✓ Keep your Protective Order with you at all times.
- ✓ Call Police immediately if your partner violates the order.
- ✓ Make a safety plan.
- ✓ Think of alternate ways to keep safe if there is a delay in Police response.
- ✓ Give copies of insurance, custody, and other important documents to a trusted friend or family member in case you have to flee without having time to collect critical documents.
- ✓ Change the locks on your doors and change your phone number if possible.
- ✓ Advise family, friends, and co-workers you have an order of protection and to call Police if they see your abuser near your home or workplace. Supply a photo if they do not know what he or she looks like.
- ✓ Inform your child's school or daycare of the Protective Order. Discuss a safety plan with your children.
- ✓ Keep your cell phone charged.

RESOURCES

VINE 1.866.634.8463

VINE (Victim Information Notification Everyday) is a free, anonymous, fully automated, information, and notification service that was created to give Victim's easier access to inmate custody, court information, and release notification 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE
FAMILY CRIMES
240.773.5400

MARYLAND NETWORK AGAINST
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
1-800 MD HELPS Toll Free

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE
1.800.799.7233 Toll Free

ABUSED PERSONS PROGRAM
240.777.4210

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CRISIS CENTER
240.777.4000

HOUSE OF RUTH LEGAL CLINIC
1.888.880.7884 Toll Free

MONTGOMERY COUNTY STATES
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
240.777.7300

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
240.777.7000

FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
240.773.0444



Montgomery County, Maryland
Department of Police
FAMILY CRIMES DIVISION
7300 Calhoun Place, Suite 300
Rockville, Maryland 20850
240.773.5400
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police
MCPD 4/09

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

J. THOMAS MANGER
CHIEF OF POLICE



FAMILY CRIMES DIVISION DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic Violence occurs when a current or former spouse, or a person with whom an individual has had an intimate relationship, commits or attempts to commit:

- ✓ An act that causes physical injury
- ✓ An act that places one in fear of physical injury
- ✓ Sexual Assault
- ✓ A violation of an Interim, Temporary, or Final Protective Order/Peace Order
- ✓ False Imprisonment
- ✓ Stalking

WHO ARE THE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic Violence occurs among all races, ages, religions, and ethnic groups. It happens to people of all educational and income levels. Domestic Violence does not discriminate. Children who are abused or witness abuse are more likely to be involved in abusive relationships as adults, as either the abuser or the victim.

A violation of a Protective Order or Peace Order can be punishable by criminal prosecution.

PROTECTIVE ORDERS

A civil order issued by the Court to prevent an abuser from physically harming, harassing, and/or threatening a Victim.

You may apply for a Protective Order if you are:

- ✓ A current or former spouse
- ✓ Someone who has a child in common with the abuser (even if not married or living separately.)
- ✓ Someone who has lived with the abuser in a committed relationship for at least 90 days within the last year.
- ✓ A person related to the abuser by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- ✓ A parent, stepparent, child, or stepchild who has lived with the victim or the abuser for at least 90 days within the past year.
- ✓ A violation of a Protective Order or Peace Order can be punishable by criminal prosecution.

PEACE ORDERS

You are eligible to file for a Peace Order if you are being harassed or stalked and/or your property is being maliciously destroyed, or trespassed on by:

- ✓ A stranger, neighbor, acquaintance or someone with whom you have a relationship that is NOT appropriate for a Protective Order.

- ✓ You have suffered serious bodily harm or you are in fear of imminent serious bodily harm.
- ✓ Have been assaulted in any degree, raped or been a victim of a sexual offense, or falsely imprisoned.
- ✓ The offensive act occurred within the last 30 days

Like a Protective Order, if issued, a Peace Order can keep your abuser from contacting you, coming to your home, school or place of work, along with other conditions to stop the unwanted and/or unlawful behavior.

HOW TO FILE CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST THE ABUSER

If it is an emergency, Call 911 to report the incident to the Police. You have up to one year to file criminal charges against your abuser. A report is not required prior to obtaining charges, but strongly encouraged. Obtain the case number from the Officer. You can go to any one of the six Police District Stations to file a report. To file criminal charges against the abuser see a District Court Commissioner who may issue an arrest warrant or a summons to appear in Court. A Commissioner is on duty at the Central Processing Unit 24 hours a day at 1307 Seven Locks Road, Rockville, Maryland 20851.